'protecting and improving the quality of life for all Bayston Hill residents'

Clerk to the Council/RFO: J Hodgkiss
Chairman: Cllr R Ruscoe

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at 7:15pm on **Monday 13th October 2025** in The Memorial Hall.

Present: C Clode (CC), D Engler (DE) E Markham (EM), A Price (AP), R Ruscoe (RR) – Chair, C Shaw (CS), P Stevens (PS), C Teckoe (CT), M Underwood (MU)

In attendance: Julie Hodgkiss – Clerk (JH), Cllr T Trickett, 1 MOP

FC58.25/26 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Cllrs Parkhurst, Osenton, Jones and Clarke – ill health and Cllrs K Turner, N Turner – holiday.

FC59.25/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
CT declared a non-pecuniary interest in item FC61 as a committee member of BHJFC

FC60.25/26 PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS
None

FC61.25/26 BAYSTON HILL JUNIORS
Mr J Harris of Bayston Hill Juniors gave a brief overview of their work with the Football Association and a proposal to add a full size astroturf to the facilities. The Chairman thanked Mr Harris for his time and asked that when more information became available that those proposals came back to Full Council for consideration.

FC62.25/26 MINUTES
RESOLVED: CT proposed to approve the minutes of the Full Council held on 8th September 2025, seconded by MU and agreed by all members present.

FC63.25/26 SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLORS REPORT
Cllr Trickett presented her pre-circulated report

FC64.24/25 CHAIRS REPORT
Cllr Ruscoe gave a verbal update highlighting that new documents had been seen regarding the Gleeson proposals for development off the A49 and a third request had been sent to them today for a public meeting with the Parish Council.

FC65.24/25 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk presented her pre-circulated report. On balance, due to transport difficulties, the decision to cancel the Apple Press event was made.

FC66.25/26 BAYSTON HILL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

RESOLVED: MU proposed In light of the lack of grant funding for the Neighbourhood Development plan, the expected cost in the region of £25k and the time frame and uncertainty of the Shropshire Local plan it is proposed that, Bayston Hill Parish Council pauses Neighbourhood Development Plan and instead is prepared to seek professional planning advice in relation to consultation for the new Draft Shropshire Local Plan and any existing and future planning applications that may require this level of support. A far better use of our funds under the current circumstances. To task the Clerk with brining at least 3 quotes from appropriate Planning Consultants to the next Full Council, so that BHPC can be adequately prepared. This was seconded by CC and agreed by all members present.

FC67.25/26 PLANNING POLICY

RESOLVED: MU proposed to update BHPC Planning Policy by adding more nuance to the paragraph regarding “back garden building” and the removal of the proviso to allow meetings with developers not to be held in public, seconded by DE and agreed by all members present.

FC68.25/26 EXTERNAL AUDITOR REPORT AND CERTIFICATE 2024/2025

Noted. The Clerk explained that she had given PKF information regarding increased income which had created a variance compared to the year before – four times, but PKF deemed this insufficient. Secondly PKF had copied comments from the Internal Audit without query to the Clerk and not printed accurately that these issues had been corrected immediately. The Clerk will be lodging an appeal and a complaint.

FC69.25/.26 NJC PAY SCALE INCREASE

Noted. Pay scale uplift from April 1st 2025.

FC70.25/26 STANDING ORDERS

RESOLVED: MU proposed to approve the amendments to BHPC Standing Orders, namely the removal of “The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council shall be expected to serve for no more than a two-year term of office.” In SO 2e. Seconded by CT and agreed by all members present.

FC71.25/26 COUNCILLOR DISPENSATION TO A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RESOLVED: MU proposed to decline the request from Cllr Parkhurst, this was seconded by PS. 8 members voted in favour, 1 member abstained. Motion carried.

FC72.25/26 PAYMENTS AND RECIEPTS

RESOLVED: CT proposed to approve payments and receipts up to September 30th 2025, seconded by AP and agreed by all members present.

FC73.25/26 LONGMEADOW ROUNDABOUT

RESOLVED: AP proposed to approve repair to play equipment at the cost of £1035.60, seconded by EM and agreed by all members present.

FC74.25/26 MONITORING OFFICER

RESOLVED: MU proposed that the Chairman investigate raising the complaint further with the Ombudsman and in addition the Clerk write to the cabinet member responsible for planning matters to share our disappointment in the outcome. Seconded by AP and agreed by all members present.

CT left the meeting at 8.21pm

FC75.25/26 POLICIES

RESOLVED: MU proposed to approve the following polices, seconded by CC and agreed by all members present.

- Lone Working Policy
- Performance Management Policy
- Sick Leave Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy

FC76.25/26 JD REPAIR

RESOLVED: PS proposed to approve the repair of the John Deere at £1139.21, seconded by DE and agreed by all members present

Signed:... Date:......................................